

FISCAL NOTE

SB 148 - HB 577

March 10, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Requires any engine coolant or antifreeze sold in Tennessee after July 1, 2004, that is manufactured on or after January 1, 2004 and contains more than 10% ethylene glycol to include denatonium benzoate at a minimum of 30 parts per million as a bittering agent within the product to make the coolant or antifreeze unpalatable. Allows a substitute aversion agent if it meets or exceeds the degree of aversion obtained by using 30 parts per million of denatonium benzoate.
- Provides that this requirement would not be imposed on the sale of a motor vehicle containing engine coolant or antifreeze or wholesale containers of antifreeze 55 gallons or more in size.
- Requires manufacturers or packagers to maintain a record of the trade name, scientific name, and active ingredients of any bittering agent and provide information and supporting documentation to any member of the public.
- Provides that a manufacturer, distributor, recycler or seller of an automotive product containing an aversive agent would not be liable for any personal injury, death or property damage resulting from the inclusion of denatonium benzoate.
- Establishes a Class C misdemeanor for violations of this bill.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$4,500

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumes an increase in expenditures to the Department of Agriculture to periodically test for additives. Laboratory supplies are estimated at \$2,000 per year and sample analysis costs \$50 per test.

Impact depends upon the number of persons convicted of this offense and the resulting increased cost to local governments to confine such persons versus the increased revenues to local governments from fines levied and collected under the provisions of this bill.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director